



Your 2022 Community Report

From Representative Jackson D. Sayama

District 20: St. Louis Heights, Palolo Valley, Maunalani Heights, Wilhelmina Rise, Kaimuki

FY 2023 Hawaii State Budget

Thanks to an influx of federal stimulus and a strong economic recovery, the Legislature created a balanced budget that restores funding to departments, expands vital social services, and gives money back to Hawaii taxpayers.



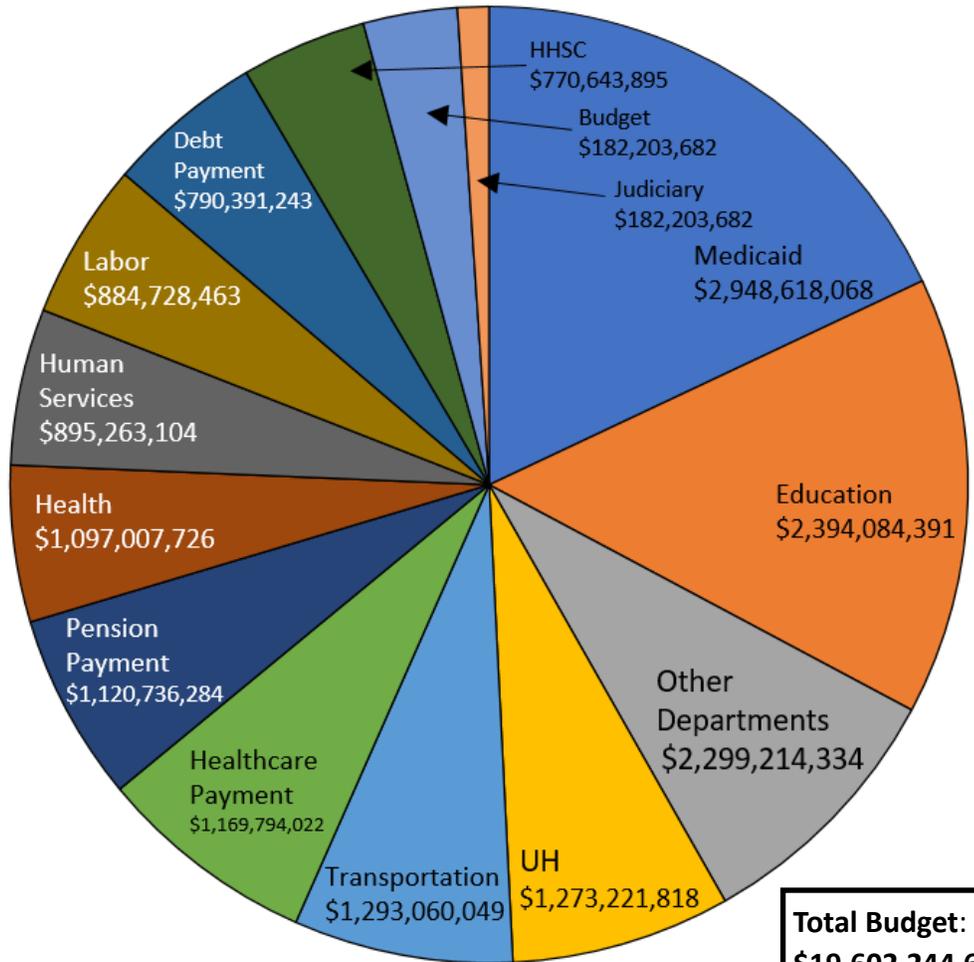
Aloha Friends and Neighbors,

I hope you and your family are in good health and spirit. Despite challenges and controversy, this Legislative Session did more than ever to help working families and build more affordable housing. In addition to wielding the budget surplus to fund critical services and infrastructure, the Legislature tackled Hawaii's biggest issues: minimum wage, Mauna Kea, youth vaping, teacher salaries, and more. While there is much work to be done, I would like to share several key bills the legislature passed this session.

Over the interim, I will be going door to door to listen to your concerns and ideas to understand how I can better serve you. I will also be working with the A+ Afterschool Program to make this service more accessible for families and their children. I look forward to hearing from you and thank you for the privilege of serving you in the House of Representatives.

Thank you,

Representative Jackson D. Sayama
District 20



Total Budget:
\$19,602,244,674

Highlights

- \$200,000,000 to the School Facilities Authority to expand access to pre-kindergarten
- \$250,000,000 in tax rebates for Hawaii taxpayers
- \$600,000,000 to the Department of Hawaiian Homelands to develop land, provide down payments, and rent subsidies for Native Hawaiians
- \$300,000,000 to the Rental Housing Revolving Fund
- \$500,000,000 to the Emergency and Budget Reserve Fund (Rainy Day Fund)
- \$328,000,000 to Kalima case settlement
- \$15,000,000 to the Ohana Zones Pilot Program to address homelessness

2022 Hawaii State Legislative Session: Bills

GOVERNMENT REFORM

(SB555) RELATING TO CAMPAIGN FUNDRAISING. Prohibits elected state and county officials from holding any fundraiser event, for which any price is charged or any contribution is suggested for attendance, during a regular session or special session of the Legislature.

LABOR & TOURISM

(SB3289) RELATING TO RETIREMENT SAVINGS PROGRAM. Establishes the Hawaii Retirement Savings Program, administered by the Hawaii Retirement Savings Board, in consultation with DLIR and B&F, to provide a state-facilitated payroll-deduction individual retirement savings plan to private sector employees who do not have access to employer-sponsored retirement savings plans beginning on an implementation date to be determined by the Board. Authorizes an implementation and evaluation study, followed by an implementation strategy and timetable, prior to implementation. Provides a state match of up to \$500 to the accounts of the first 50,000 covered employees who participate in the program for 12 consecutive months after initial enrollment. Appropriates \$27,255,000 to the implementation



Rep. Sayama speaking in support of establishing the retirement savings program emphasizing the importance of young professionals to begin saving for their retirement.

(HB2510) RELATING TO MINIMUM WAGE & EITC. Makes the state earned income tax credit (EITC) refundable and permanent and provides for carryforward of nonrefundable credits previously claimed. Increases the minimum wage to \$12 beginning October 1, 2022 to \$18 beginning January 1, 2028. Increases the tip credit to \$1 beginning on October 1, 2022 to \$1.50 beginning on January 1, 2028.

JUDICIARY

(HB1567) RELATING TO CRIMINAL PRETRAIL REFORM. Eliminates the use of monetary bail and requires defendants to be released on their own recognizance for traffic offenses, violations, nonviolent petty misdemeanor offenses, nonviolent misdemeanor offenses, or nonviolent class C felony offenses, subject to certain exclusions. Requires the Department of Public Safety to make any necessary arrangements to provide videoconferencing to a defendant who chooses to participate in a bail report interview via videoconference.

(HB2197) RELATING TO GAMBLING. Amends the offense of promoting gambling in the first and second degree to a class B felony and class C felony, respectively.

(HB1455) RELATING TO ELECTRIC GUNS. Amends the offense of robbery in the first degree to include as part of the offense being armed with or using an electric gun during the course of a theft or non-consensual taking of a motor vehicle.

(HB2421) RELATING TO RECIDIVISM. Establishes a 3 year Women's Court Pilot Program within the Judiciary's 1st Circuit to provide services to women in the court system with the goal of reducing recidivism. Appropriates \$695,236 out of general revenues to the Judiciary for equipment; mental health, substance abuse treatment, and other services; and the establishment of seven temporary positions.

EDUCATION

(SB2862) RELATING TO SCHOOL AIR CONDITIONING. Appropriates \$10,000,000 out of general revenues to the Department of Education for the installation of air conditioning in Hawaii public school classrooms that have not received air conditioning units or other heat abatement measures.

(SB2821) RELATING TO MENSTRUAL EQUITY. Requires the Department of Education to provide menstrual products to all students, free of charge, on all public school and public charter school campuses.



Rep. Sayama and Principal Kinau Gardner presenting a House Certificate congratulating Dr. Reid Kuba for earning the 2021 Principal of the Year Award and recognizing his years of service as Jarrett Middle School's principal.

(SB3357) RELATING TO NATIVE HAWAIIAN GRANTS. Appropriates \$2,000,000 out of general revenues to provide grants to federal tax-exempt non-profit organizations to improve Native Hawaiian communities and culture through various assistance programs, including but not limited to programs that offer Native Hawaiian historic preservation, business training, entrepreneurship, and mentoring.

(HB2024) RELATING TO MAUNA KEA STEWARDSHIP AND OVERSIGHT AUTHORITY. Establishes the Mauna Kea Stewardship and Oversight Authority (Authority) to consist of 11 appointed members to administer the Authority. Requires the Authority to jointly manage Mauna Kea lands with the University of Hawaii during a five year transition period beginning on July 1, 2023. On July 1, 2028, transfers all rights, powers, functions, duties, and positions from the University of Hawaii to the Authority, which shall become the sole authority for the management of Mauna Kea lands. Requires the University of Hawaii to timely decommission the California Institute of Technology Submillimeter Telescope and University of Hawaii at Hilo Hoku Kea Teaching Telescope, as determined by the Authority. Appropriates \$14,000,000 out of general revenues for startup and transition planning costs for the Authority. Appropriates \$350,000 out of general revenues for K-12 public education programs in astronomy-related fields of learning at the University of Hawaii at Hilo's Imiloa Astronomy Center.



Rep. Sayama with the House Finance Committee visiting the UH West Oahu's Academy for Creative Media , where UH has invested in state of the art film technology to develop local talents for Hawaii's film industry.

NATIVE HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

(HB2511) RELATING TO DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOMELANDS. Appropriates \$600,000,000 out of general revenues to the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to pursue a multi-pronged approach to eliminating its waiting list. Authorizes DHHL to develop lots or units, purchase available land or units, provide funding for an applicant on the waiting list or qualified relative, provide a mortgage or rental subsidy to an applicant on the waiting list for the applicant's principal residence in the State.

HEALTH & HOMELESSNESS

(SB3124) RELATING TO RED HILL FUEL STORAGE. Makes an emergency appropriation of \$1,500,000 out of general revenues for fiscal year 2021-2022 for response and enforcement activities of the Department of Health relating to petroleum leaks at the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility.

(HB1570) RELATING TO YOUTH VAPING. Prohibits the sale, offer for sale, or possession with intent to sell or offer for sale a flavored tobacco product, including an electronic smoking device, and the mislabeling as nicotine-free, or the sale or market for sale as nicotine free, any e-liquid product that contains nicotine. Establishes fines for violations.



Rep. Sayama speaking with HSTA members and sign wavers about the importance of eliminating vaping products from Hawaii's schools.

(SB3235) RELATING TO HOMELESS YOUTH SHELTER. Establishes an Safe Spaces for Youth Pilot Program within the Department of Human Services to provide safe spaces in each county for youth experiencing homelessness. Appropriates \$600,000 for the Safe Spaces for Youth Pilot Program.

(HB2512) RELATING TO OHANA ZONES PILOT PROGRAM. Allows recipients of accommodations or services from an Ohana Zone site to request a 90-day extension of the accommodations or services. Extends the sunset date for the Ohana Zones Pilot Program to June 30, 2026. Appropriates \$15,000,000 for the Ohana Zones Pilot Program.

HOUSING

(SB3048) AFFORDABLE RENTAL HOUSING DEVELOPMENT. Appropriates \$300,000,000 of general revenues into and out of the Rental Housing Revolving Fund. Of this amount, up to \$150,000,000 may be used for mixed-income rental projects or units in mixed income rental projects targeted for individuals and families with incomes above 60 percent and at or below 100 percent of the State median family income.

(SB206) RELATING TO RENTAL DISCRIMINATION. Prohibits discrimination, including in advertisements for rental property, in rental transactions based on participation in a Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program or any permanent supportive housing program or requirements related to participation in a housing assistance programs. Provides exemptions for certain landlords. Establishes penalties and remedies for violations.

(HB1837) RELATING TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT. Establishes the Statewide Working Group on Affordable Housing that meets annually to discuss opportunities to reduce zoning, regulatory, and statutory barriers to affordable housing development. Requires the Working Group to submit annual reports to the Legislature. Appropriates \$100,000 out of general revenues to support the Working Group, including one full-time position.



Rep. Sayama meeting with students and their professor from UH Manoa to discuss legislation to reform Hawaii's criminal justice system .

Community Coming Together

Celebrating Leaders

Over the course of the pandemic, organizations such as Project Vision, Department of Health and others mobilized to give out free vaccinations and testing kits. Pastor Kevin Kondo was instrumental in bringing these services to Palolo. Thanks to him and many volunteers, hundreds of families were saved from the virus. I am proud to honor Pastor Kondo for his services at his last clinic.



Renewal for Kaimuki

On March 18th, I toured the site of the future “Goodwill Building” and was impressed with the project’s commitment to our community. A block down the street, I spoke with Adoree Yu, who was cleaning up the interior of the Queen Theatre to show case the property. With a strong partnership, these projects will bring new opportunities for businesses and our communities.

Town Hall Coming to You

This legislative session, I hosted my first in-person town hall at the Hawaii Tzu Chi Academy. We discussed community concerns and legislation I’ve introduced, plans for affordable housing, and sustainable tourism management. These town halls are an opportunity for you to share your concerns with me. In the next few months, I will schedule a number of town halls in the community.



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\$7 MILLION CIP FUNDS FOR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

Investing in our school infrastructure is critical to ensuring a safe and productive learning environment for our children and teachers. During the legislative session, I met with school principals and teachers to understand what projects needed to be funded and prioritized. I'm proud to have secured \$7,000,000 in CIP funding for our schools. I will continue to fight for our schools and advocate for our community.

AL'IOLANI ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

- **\$300,000** for campus wide general improvements, ground, and site improvements

PALOLO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

- **\$500,000** for covered play court resurfacing
- **\$2,000,000** for Building D renovation

JARRETT MIDDLE SCHOOL

- **\$2,200,000** for structural renovation, ground, and site improvements
- **\$600,000** general building improvements

KAIMUKI HIGH SCHOOL

- **\$1,400,000** for campus telecommunication and electrical infrastructure improvements



Rep. Sayama speaking with Jarrett Middle School's Principal Kinau Gardner on how to improve the facilities.



Rep. Sayama met with Palolo Elementary School's Principal Gary Harada and the A+ Program staff to discuss improvements for after school programs.